

Message Text

SECRET

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14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O R 080810Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7601

INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

S E C R E T ISTANBUL 2530

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3 DECLAS UNKNOWN

TAGS: PINS, SREF, CVIS, BU, TU

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR REFUGEE STATUS

REF: ISTANBUL 2529

1. BULGARIAN NATIONALS RETURNED TO CONGEN MORNING JULY 8 AS AGREED. THEY WERE PROVIDED BASIC SUBSISTENCE FUNDS AND ASKED TO RETURN MORNING JULY 9, AT 0900 HOURS LOCAL TIME. AT THAT TIME LANGUAGE OFFICER WILL HAVE RETURNED TO POST TO PERMIT FURTHER DEBRIEFING, AND EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE SHOULD ALSO BE IN HAND.

2. VOLKOV PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING DETAILS ON HIS REMOVAL FROM THE TURKISH REFUGEE CAMP:

A. ONE MORNING DURING ENGLISH LESSONS POLICE CAME AND ASKED FOR ALL BULGARIANS. VULKOV AND KLECHKOV WERE THE ONLY TWO. THEY WERE TAKEN BY CAR TO THE BULGARIAN CONSULATE WHERE THEIR PHOTOS WERE TAKEN AND THEY WERE GIVEN SOME "PAPER" IN LIEU OF A PASSPORT.

B. FOUR POLICEMEN THEN TOOK THEM BY BUS TO EDIRNE, AND THEN FROM EDIRNE TO THE BORDER BY VW CAR. THEY WERE TURNED OVER TO THE BULGARIAN POLICE AT THE BORDER AND TAKEN BY TRAIN TO SOFIA. THEY SPENT ONE MONTH IN A "SMALL ROOM, NO FREE"

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(PRISON?) BUT WERE RELEASED AFTER SIGNING A DECLARATION

THAT THEY WOULD NOT TRY TO GO AGAIN TO A WESTERN COUNTRY. THEY WERE TOLD IF THEY TRIED AGAIN, THEY WOULD SPEND A MINIMUM OF FIVE YEARS IN PRISON.

3. VULKOV STATED HE HAS A 24 YEAR OLD BROTHER WHO ALSO WANTS TO GET TO THE US, BUT IS WAITING FOR NEWS OF VULKOV'S SUCCESS FIRST.

4. PUNCHEV WORKS AS A TRUCK DRIVER IN SOFIA. HE HAS LIVED THERE TWO YEARS. THIS IS THE FIRST TRIP OUTSIDE BULGARIA FOR HIM. HE HAS ONE SISTER.

5. NO FURTHER INFORMATION WAS ACQUIRED. THEY STATED THEY HAD NO DIFFICULTY IN SPENDING THE NIGHT IN KADIKOY AND DO NOT EXPECT ANY TROUBLE FROM THE POLICE. THEY WERE PROVIDED 300TL FOR SUBSISTENCE AND SIGNED A RECEIPT FOR THESE FUNDS.
BATJER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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